

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed March 9, 2007, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, each of the rejections set forth in the Office Action has been carefully considered and is addressed below. The application as presented is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Objections To The Specification

The Office Action objects to the Abstract because it exceeds 150 words. Applicant has amended the Abstract to address this objection. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Double Patenting Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 1-12, 14, and 15 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 15, 18-21, 27, and 28 of U.S. Patent No. 6,807,632. Applicant intends to overcome this rejection with a terminal disclaimer.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4, 7-9, 11, 12, 14, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by Farber (5,978,791), and objects to claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, and 13 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but allowable if re-written in independent form including all limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants note that claim 13 as previously-pending was in independent form. Based on the statements concerning claim 13 on page 8 of the Office Action, Applicants assume that objection to claim 13 as being dependent on a rejected base claim was in error, and that the Office Action intended to indicate claim 13 as allowed.

Applicant has re-written each of claims 2, 3, 6, and 10 in independent form including all limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. Specifically, each of these claims has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 1. Claims 4 and 5 depend from claim 3 and are patentable for at least the same reasons. Claims 1, 7-9, 11, 12, 14, and 15 have been canceled

without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to continue to pursue the subject matter of these claims in one or more continuing applications.

In view of these amendments, the only claims that remain pending in this application are claims that are indicated as allowable or that depend from a claim indicated as allowable. Accordingly, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

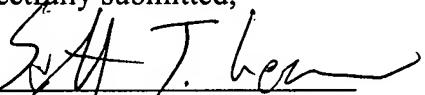
CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Dated: June 11, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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